

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 /074 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

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R 130058Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS STATE 151692

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JULY 12, 1974:

Q. CAN YOU TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S TRAVEL?
IS HE PLANNING TO GO TO SAN CLEMENTE? IF SO, WHEN? WHAT
ABOUT A TRIP TO JAPAN? WHEN WILL HE GO TO INDIA? AND
WHEN WILL HE GO TO CHINA? AND LATIN AMERICA.

A. ON THIS -- THIS IS ON BACKGROUND INCIDENTALLY -- I WISH
I KNEW BECAUSE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO ME. BUT SERIOUSLY,
NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR ANY OF THESE TRIPS.

INSOFAR AS INDIA IS CONCERNED, THE SECRETARY -- I THINK IT
WAS ON JUNE 6 -- SAID THAT HE DID PLAN TO GO TO INDIA.
AND MY GUESS IS THAT HE WILL DO THIS PROBABLY NOT BEFORE
SEPTEMBER. BUT THAT'S JUST MY OWN GUESS.

Q. WAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT AWARE THAT INDIA HAD ATTEMPTED
TO EXPLODE AN ATOMIC DEVICE IN FEBRUARY?

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A. I DON'T KNOW.

Q. SENATOR JACKSON ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THERE WAS AN ATTEMPT, AND THAT PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT KNEW ABOUT IT. I DON'T THINK HE SPECIFIED WHETHER IT WAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

A. I JUST DON'T KNOW. YOU MIGHT WANT TO ASK THE AEC.

Q. BUT I AM INTERESTED IN WHETHER THE STATE DEPARTMENT KNEW.

A. I AM UNAWARE OF IT. I JUST DON'T KNOW.

Q. COULD WE CHECK THAT?

A. SURE, I'LL LOOK INTO IT. #

#SUPPLIED FOR THE RECORD LATER: THERE HAVE BEEN PRESS REPORTS TO THIS EFFECT (FYI: JUNE 10 NEWSWEEK). WE HAVE NO CONFIRMED INFORMATION. NOR DID WE HAVE ANY INDICATION PRIOR TO THE MAY 18 TEST THAT ANY SUCH ATTEMPT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MADE. KISSINGER

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